



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, August 27, 2002

Council Session

Item G5

Approving Minutes of August 20, 2002 City Council Study Session

*The Minutes of the August 20, 2002 City Council Study Session are submitted for approval.
See attached MINUTES.*

Staff Contact: RaNae Edwards

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA

MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION

August 20, 2002

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a Study Session of the City Council of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska was conducted in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 100 East First Street, on August 20, 2002. Notice of the meeting was given in the Grand Island Independent on August 14, 2002.

Mayor Ken Gnadt called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The following members were present: Councilmembers Pielstick, Ward, Seifert, Larson, Hornady, Whitesides, Haase, Murray, Walker and Sorensen. The following City Officials were present: City Administrator Marlan Ferguson, City Clerk RaNae Edwards, City Attorney Charlie Cuypers, Public Works Director Steve Riehle and Finance Director David Springer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was said.

RESERVE TIME TO SPEAK ON AGENDA ITEMS: No individuals reserved time to speak on agenda items.

Presentation by Susan Seacrest Regarding the 15th Annual Children's Groundwater Festival for 2003 and the Statewide Ground Water Education Program. Mayor Gnadt introduced Susan Seacrest to update the Council with regards to the 15th Annual Children's Groundwater Festival for 2003 and Statewide Ground Water Education Program. The Children's Groundwater Festival has been held annually since 1989. Mentioned was the money spent during this event and the 45,000 children that had been served since 1989. Ms. Seacrest thanked the City for their involvement in these events.

Presentation by Pam Price and Susan Gallagher Regarding the Stuhr Museum Train. Pam Price and Susan Gallagher, Executive Director of Stuhr Museum made a presentation concerning the train fundraising strategy plan. Mentioned was the County's decision to place the capital cost of a train on the November ballot and the possible Operating Train Endowment. Ms. Price invited the City to come on board and help in this endeavor.

Reviewed was the fundraising strategy of issuing bonds for \$4.9 million. Requested was support from the City to help fund the operation of the train until an endowment could be raised to support the annual operation costs of the train, which was estimated to take approximately 10 years.

Councilmember Whitesides suggested that this item be put on the next meeting agenda for a vote. Glendale Reiss, 910 North Boggs, spoke of the challenges of a project like this. Lewis Kent, 624 East Meves, spoke in support and questioned if the committee had an alternative plan.

Presentation by Mark Vess Regarding the Thermal Decontamination of Load Line 1 at CHAAP. Gary Hedman representing Southern Public Power District introduced Mark Vess, Senior Project Manager with MKM Engineers. Also present was Billy Moses, Quality Control of Bomb Disposal with MKM Engineers. Presented was a video of burning Load Line 1 at CHAAP.

Councilmember Larson questioned how long this would take to clean up. Mr. Vess stated that the plan was to do one Load Line a year. Mr. Vess presented the Mayor with a plaque from MKM Engineers for the support of the City in cleaning up the Cornhusker Army Ammunition Plant.

Discussion Concerning Stormwater and Drainage into Cottonwood and Sucks Lakes. Steve Paustian, Parks and Recreation Director, updated the council on a \$45,000 grant project to improve Suck's Lake. The project would include dredging the lake to deepen it as well as modifications to the storm sewer system that drains into the lake to prevent silting and keep storm water contaminants out of the lake. Total cost of Suck's Lake restoration would be approximately \$331,237.

Councilmember Seifert questioned if there would be aeration in the lake. Mr. Paustain stated there would be.

Steve Riehle, Public Works Director briefed the Council on a project being considered for Cottonwood Lake. Cottonwood Lake (also known as Brach's or Joe's Lake by some Grand Island residents) had also experienced silting problems from storm water culverts that drained into the Lake. The Cottonwood Lake Association had approached City staff and would like the City to remove the silt and install controls to prevent it from silting in again. The Association would like to partner with the City on a joint project to remove the silt and dredge the lake to deepen it.

Staff suggested that these two projects be done at the same time to save money. The Cottonwood Lake Association would like to see a cost share of a 50/50 split. Discussed was using public funds for a private lake. Councilmember Walker asked what the cost would be to do this project. Mr. Riehle stated costs would be approximately \$48,000. Councilmember Larson stated that the City needs to clean up the problems created by the City, which would benefit both the City and the Cottonwood Lake Association. Ilene Gruendel, President of Cottonwood Lake Association, spoke in support.

Sidewalk Committee Report. Steve Riehle, Public Works Director, reported that the Sidewalk Committee had reviewed the Geographic Information System maps and concentrated on areas leading to and away from schools. The Committee identified areas where they believed Council should order sidewalks installed before school starts in the Fall of 2003. It was mentioned that after the Study Session, the Sidewalk Committee would review the areas, meet with property owners in areas where there may be some installation problems with sidewalks, hammer out details, and then come back to Council with the final list. The Committee would then ask Council to direct the Staff to write letters to property owners telling them to install sidewalks before school starts in Fall 2003.

Councilmember Ward suggested notifying the public through the newspaper or utility bills with regards to installing sidewalks. Councilmember Hornady questioned if it was necessary to put sidewalks on both sides of the street.

Norm Saale, 1314 South Harrison Street, spoke in support with regards to installing sidewalks along the west side of Harrison Street.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

RaNae Edwards
City Clerk